

HONORING SIDNEY PERMISSON

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2001

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the achievements of Sidney Permisson, an outstanding and dynamic member of Broward County whose numerous contributions will leave a lasting effect on the Sunrise community. Mr. Permisson, who passed away on May 13, 2001, was a civic activist in Broward County for over twenty years.

Sidney Permisson was born on February 28, 1916, and raised in Brooklyn, NY. He completed two years of studies at Brooklyn College before he had to leave school to help support his parents. Mr. Permisson worked at a Brooklyn bakery for eight years and eventually became a delegate for the Cake Bakers Union, Local 51. During this time he married Pauline Kravitz, his wife of 62 years. His work in the union eventually led him to become a mediator and a labor chief, where he stood up for hard-working men and women with no political clout or financial influence. Sidney Permisson retired in 1975 and moved to Sunrise, Florida.

Upon his arrival, Mr. Permisson quickly became active in the community. As his two daughters, Joyce Japelle and Elayna Finkle, will tell you, he believed in hard work, helping others, and doing the right thing. Friends describe Sidney Permisson as compassionate, sincere, honest, and always there to help. He fought to establish a countywide trauma network, led a powerful condominium association, worked for environmental protection, kept tabs on local tax and education issues, and spoke out about consumer rights, good government, and health care. He was an inspiring public speaker. When Sidney spoke, people listened.

His efforts in the community brought him a great deal of deserved recognition. Mr. Permisson received the Sunrise Volunteer of the Year Award twice, in 1987 and 1988. In 1989, as president of the Gold Key Civic Association, a social assistance organization for Sunrise area residents, Mr. Permisson received the President's Special Recognition Award issued by the Broward Regional Health Planning Council. He won the Sunrise Political Club Humanitarian Award in 1990. Also in 1990, he was elected to the Broward Senior Hall of Fame for Outstanding Volunteer Service. As President of the Statewide HMO Ombudsman Committee from 1996 to 1997, Sidney Permisson worked for the establishment of 11 statewide HMO Ombudsman councils to help solve problems between subscribers and managed care providers. Finally, he received the HMO Patient Advocate Award and the Broward Regional Health Planning Council Dedicated Service Award in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, the accomplishments of Sidney Permisson are a testament to his dedication and his passion. He leaves a lasting legacy for the people of Broward County which greatly enriches our community.

IN MEMORY OF RICHARD M. BRENNAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Richard M. Brennan, Cleveland Municipal Judge.

Judge Brennan, as he was known for 22 years, was elected in 1965 as the chief justice of the court. Even though they cancelled his position in the mid-1970s, he continued working as an associate judge, for he was continually striving to uphold the deepest integrity of the law. During these years, Judge Brennan accomplish many things. One of his most outstanding achievements was when he mobilized community support for the construction of the Justice Center. When it was unanimously approved by voters in 1969, the whole community was extremely pleased. Judge Brennan also played a vital role in devising a docket system in which lawsuits are delegated to judges.

Judge Brennan, who was an assistant Cleveland law director from 1960 to 1965, graduated from St. Ignatius High School, John Carroll University, and the Cleveland Marshall Law School. He unfortunately retired from Cleveland Municipal Judge in 1987 due to illness. Judge Brennan will forever be missed.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Judge Richard M. Brennan, a man that has touched the Cleveland community in countless ways. His love, dedication, and honor will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JUSTICE
MARTIN DIES, JR.

HON. JIM TURNER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2001

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in memory of Justice Martin Dies, Jr., who recently passed away on May 14, 2001 after a full life of eighty years.

Justice Dies, the son of U.S. Congressman Martin Dies Sr., and Myrtle Dies grew up and was educated in Orange, Texas. He later attended the University of Virginia in Washington, D.C. and later, Stephen F. Austin University where he received his B.S. degree. When the United States entered World War II Justice Dies left college to volunteer with the Navy.

While at officer's school in New York, Martin was chosen as Commander of the Third Battalion. He was later presented a Gold Sword at graduation as the outstanding member of the Battalion. In the war, Martin saw extensive naval combat in both the Philippines and in Okinawa, for which he received several medals and military citations. After Justice Dies' ship was ordered to repel the Japanese invasion at the Battle of Leyte, the entire crew received the prestigious Presidential Unit Citation for bravery.

Near the end of the war Justice Dies saw duty as Captain of the U.S.S. *Richard W. Seusers*.

Following the war, Justice Dies completed his legal education at Southern Methodist Uni-

versity Law School. In 1947, he was named a member of the Barristers at SMU. While attending law school, he married Ruth Marie White of Lufkin in 1946. Upon graduation, he began practicing law with the firm Dies, Anderson and Dies.

In 1959 Justice Dies was elected to the Texas Senate from the Third Senatorial District. During his tenure in the Senate, he was widely recognized as a moving force in the effort to modernize government services for the disabled, for which he received numerous awards. Additionally, Justice Dies took great interest in improving the Texas park system. In 1965 the 750 acre park at the Dam B. Reservoir was named in his honor. The Martin Dies, Jr. State Park has been widely praised as one of the most beautiful and visited public parks in Texas.

In 1969, Justice Dies was sworn in as Secretary of State of Texas. Two years later, he was appointed Chief Justice of the 9th Court of Appeals where he served with distinction until his retirement in 1989. During that time he served on the Texas Judicial Council, serving four years as the President of the Council. He also received the Texas Handicapped Person of the Year Award, was a fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation, and served as a member of the Judicial Manpower Commission.

Justice Dies will be remembered for his great courage, his high moral and ethical standards, and above all, his compassion for others. We share our grief with his family at his passing, as we were honored to share the joy of his life.

RETIREMENT OF DR. DAVID E.
EPPERSON

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2001

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to observe that Dr. David E. Epperson, Dean of the University of Pittsburgh's School of Social Work, is retiring after nearly 30 years.

Dean Epperson is the longest-serving dean of social work in the country. Having served in this position since 1972, he has also served as a dean at Pitt longer than anyone else in the school's history. Under his leadership, the University of Pittsburgh's School of Social Work has tripled in size and become one of the nation's foremost graduate schools for social work.

Dean Epperson is a University of Pittsburgh alumnus as well. He earned a bachelor's degree, two master's degrees, and a Ph.D. in political science and public policy at Pitt. He has studied in Hong Kong and Turkey as well.

In addition to his academic career, Dr. Epperson worked for the YMCA both in Pittsburgh and Hong Kong. He currently serves on the National Board of Directors and International Committee of the YMCA of the USA, as well as the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan YMCA of Pittsburgh. He was also the former executive director of Community Action Pittsburgh, Incorporated.

Dean Epperson has also found the time to be very active in community affairs. He has served on the State Planning Board, the Judicial Reform Commission for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, The Pennsylvania Humanities Council, and the State Compensation